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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, OVERSEERS OF POOR,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON,

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1868.

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1868.

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

Of the Town of New Boston, for the year ending March 1, 1868.

The Selectmen of the Town of New Boston submit the following statement of receipts and disbursements for the year ending March 1st, 1868:

RECEIPTS.

Amount of taxes assessed	$16,863 53
Literary fund	51 75
School fund	15 00
Use of town house	45 45
Dog tax	48 00
Savings bank tax	651 26
Railroad tax	120 18
United States bounties	638 00
County paupers	40 00
Tax on bank stock	133 09
	$18,606 26

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid State tax	$3,118 75
County tax	932 52
School house tax, District No. 3	250 00
School house tax, District No. 8	45 00
	$4,346 27

PAID FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1	$41 98	District No. 11	$69 64
2	70 23	12	35 31
3	55 35	13	90 79
4	84 70	14	51 97
5	63 48	15	57 09
6	79 43	16	94 08
7	67 00	17	26 43
8	261 52		
9	71 42		$1,266 64
10	46 22		

PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

George G. Fox, town clerk	$48 50
Hammon Woodbury, superintending school committee	78 00
Robert B. Cochran, selectman	119 75
Stephen F. Burnham, do	107 00
David Barnard, do	92 00
Benjamin Dodge, treasurer	80 00
Robert B. Cochran, overseer of poor	4 00
Stephen F. Burnham, do	6 50
David Barnard, do	4 00
George W. McLane, constable	5 00
David A. Tewksbury, do	4 00
Eben L. Bartlett, collector	112 50
	$661 25

PAID FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Robert P. Kelso, labor on road	$12 00
Frank Brown, repairing road	31 52
John Smith, do	50 00
Steel for drills, used on J. N. Dodge road	5 83
G. & A. C. Wilson, labor on do	80 50
James Walker, do do	42 00
Reuel Walker, for help on do	35 00
Elisha Wheeler, labor on road	7 00
Emerson Johonnett, repairing How bridge	61 65
J. K. Chandler, for iron for do	19 50
Wm. S. Burnham, labor on road	2 00
Joshua J. Woodbury, labor on road	5 50
John M. Todd, repairing road	10 24
Caleb C. Stowell, repairing bog bridge	1 15
James D. Walker, labor on road and bridge	3 00
Aaron White, cutting ice	1 00
	$367 89

FOR BREAKING ROADS IN 1867.

Wm. Parker Jr.	$28 00	Jonathan Marden	$27 08
Elzaphan Langdell	28 68	Samuel Marden	10 50
Proctor C. Lull	15 47	George W. Clark	52 88
Jona. E. King	19 21	Joseph A. Leach	3 82
Joseph M. Orne	19 67	Joseph A. Goodhue	2 25
C. F. Farley	3 00	Franklin Brown, 1868	5 40
Ira Gage	10 85		
John B. Warren	20 10		$246 91

PAID FOR INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

For town books, and expenses taking the inventory	$24 50
Alonzo Travis, damage on road	10 00
C. H. Wilkins, board of selectmen, 1867	42 88
Campbell & Hanscom, for printing reports	35 00
Tewksbury & Brothers, books and paper, &c.	15 88
Solomon Dodge, bounty of Julian P. Dodge	301 00
Robert Wilson, damage to ox	25 00
Benjamin D. Stanley, building grave-yard wall	197 14
C. W. Dodge & Co., stationery	95
S. F. Burnham, moderator	4 00
S. F. Burnham, expenses on Hoit road	3 00
Whipple & Atwood, store bill	22 40
R. B. Cochran, cash paid out	9 97
Sidney Hills, ringing bell	12 00
George M. Shedd, care of town house, wood and lights	35 26
	$726 98

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Charles H. Bixby, 1866, over tax	$24 00
Mrs. Betsy Giddings, 1866, by vote of town	27 84
Reuel Walker, 1866, poll tax	5 76
Moses Towns, 1866, poll tax	5 76
Samuel M. Worthley, 1867, over tax	15 15
Rachel T. Cochran, do do	2 33
Thomas Wason, do do	2 00
Rebecca B. Dodge, 1866, over tax	5 30
Mrs. Mary T. Colburn, 1866	1 00
John Atwood, as guardian, 1867	9 51
John Hills, poll tax	5 64
E. Langdell, dog tax	1 00
Willard Russell, 1867, poll tax	5 64
Wm. Stinson, do	5 64
Calvin Andrews, do	5 64
John Langdell, by his own request	4 70
Benj. D. Stanley, highway tax of C. H. Bixby	3 00
Gilman Peabody, poll tax	5 64
Joel Peabody, over tax	1 77
John Smith, do	71
Town Farm	45 59
	$183 62

PAID FOR PAUPERS OFF THE FARM.

Diantha Livingston	$ 36 50
For John Livingston	142 14
Michael White	48 00
City of Concord, for Ziba Caldwell	13 58
For Breen boys	38 00
Joel Peabody, for Gilman and Samuel Peabody	12 00
Whipple & Atwood, for Gilman Peabody	5 00
Town of Goffstown, for paupers	15 50
For Breen boys	5 00
	$315 72

PAID FOR COUNTY PAUPERS.

Andrew J. Gillis	5 00
Jacob Towns' family	9 51
	$14 51

Non-resident highway receipts, 1867	$ 105 83
Notes and interest	10,684 26
Appraisement of real estate	161 25
Abatement of taxes in 1861, 1862 and 1863	9 35

PAID SELECTMEN FOR A NEW APPRAISAL OF REAL ESTATE.

Robert B. Cochran	$45 00
Stephen F. Burnham	40 50
David Barnard	45 00
Expenses	30 75
	$161 25

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts		$18,606 26
Disbursements—		
Paid State, County, and school house taxes	$4,346 27	
For support of schools	1,266 64	
Town officers	661 25	
Roads and bridges	367 89	
Breaking roads, 1867 and 1868	246 91	
Incidental expenses	726 98	
Abatement of taxes	183 62	
For paupers off the farm	315 72	
For county paupers	14 51	
Non-resident highway receipts	105 83	
Notes and interest	10,684 26	
Appraisement of real estate	161 25	
Abatement of taxes in 1861, '62, '63	9 35	
		19,090 48
Balance against the town		484 22
Notes against the town		33,989 47
		34,481 69
In collector's hands	5,050 06	
In treasurer's hands	2,800 00	
		7,850 06
Town Debt		26,631 03
United States bounty due, doubtful	1,800 00	

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT B. COCHRAN,
STEPHEN F. BURNHAM,
DAVID BARNARD,
} Selectmen of New Boston.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

Of the Town of New Boston for the year ending March 1st, 1868.

The overseers of the poor submit the following statement of receipts and expenditures for poor on Town farm and off the farm. Also, an inventory of the stock, provisions, &c., now on the farm.

RECEIPTS.

Received as per book of the Superintendent	$269 70
For lumber	79 97
Earned by superintendent and team	237 22
	$586 89

EXPENDITURES.

Expended as per book of the superintendent	$259 00		
Joseph M. Orne, for hay	30 00		
Robert B. Cochran, for hay	28 05		
C. W. Dodge & Co.	77 31—	394 36	
Paid superintendent	275 00		
R. B. Cochran, overseer of poor	4 00		
S. F. Burnham do	6 00		
David Barnard do	4 00—	289 00	
		683 36	

APPRAISED VALUE OF HAY, PROVISIONS, &c., ON THE FARM, FEB. 25th, 1868.

1 pr. oxen	217 00	Vinegar bbls.	1 00
6 cows	275 00	Cider and casks	10 00
1 horse	75 00	3 bbls. and soap	6 00
3 yearlings	50 00	3 light stands	1 00
3 sheep	20 00	5 tables	3 50
2 hogs	28 00	3 stoves and furniture	20 00
16 hens	9 60	1 meal chest and meal	3 00
7 tons hay	154 00	5 pails	2 00
Lot hay, butts, &c.	13 10	1 cheese press	4 00
1 cart-hay body, &c.	25 00	Pots and pans	1 50
1 wagon	25 00	Stone jugs and jars	3 00
4 ploughs	10 00	Lot tin ware	7 50
3 ladders	20 00	Lot wooden ware	1 00
1 horse rake	3 00	2 butter tubs	1 00
1 cultivator	8 00	1 paring machine, &c.	1 25
8 m. shingles	44 00	2 lanterns	1 00
2 manure forks	2 00	4 candle sticks	50
3 shovels	2 50	Lot crockery	2 00
3 iron bars	4 00	Lot knives and forks	2 50

4 yokes	12 00
5 pitch forks	2 00
1 rake	25
Harness and bells	3 00
1 sleigh	8 00
4 axes	4 00
Cart tire	2 00
3 draft chains	4 00
1 pick	1 00
Beetle and wedges	1 00
1 corn cutter, 1 sickle	75
2 augers	1 25
2 scythes and sneaths	2 50
1 whiffletree chain	50
1 grindstone	4 50
3 wood saws	3 00
2 hand saws	1 00
1 trap	75
1 stone hammer	2 00
2 whiffletrees	1 00
1 shave	50
2 harrows	8 00
1 drag rake	50
1 wheelbarrow	2 50
3 hoes	1 50
3 sleds	38 00
1 drag	3 00
Lot lumber	3 00
2 hammers,	25
2 ox baskets	75
1 buffalo robe	15 00
275 lbs. pork	43 25
200 lbs. beef	24 00
150 lbs. ham	20 00
110 bush. potatoes	95 00
126 lbs. cheese	21 00
25 lbs. butter	10 00
5 meat bbls.	5 00

2 clocks	6 00
4 sad irons	1 50
3 lamps	1 50
1 set andirons	35
1 clothes line	50
Dry measures	40
1 set cheese fixtures	3 00
22 dry casks	3 00
1 spinning wheel	1 50
15 chests and trunks	10 00
5 meal bags and cask	2 00
3 tubs	2 00
9 beds and bedding	125 00
24 chairs	3 50
35 bush. corn	56 00
4 bush. oats	3 60
Peas and beans	8 00
25 lbs. dried apple	3 75
98 lbs. flour	8 00
1 cheese press	4 00
1 churn	2 50
5 bush. wheat	15 00
Lard	5 00
Lot garden sauce	3 00
1 keg and nails	3 00
8 baskets	4 50
Lot apples	3 00
Shovel and tongs	35
Lot books	2 00
2 bureaus	2 00
Lot clothing	3 00
2 brass kettles	3 00
1 tin boiler	2 00
Lot soap grease	1 00
Lot groceries	2 00
12 yds. sheeting	1 92
1 pr. handirons	1 00

RECAPITULATION.

Received from the avails of the farm	$586 89	
Paid for farm	683 36	
Balance account of the farm	$96 47	
Expense to the town		$96 47
Amount of stock and provisions on the farm March 1, 1867	1,843 15	
Amount of stock and provisions on the farm March 1, 1868	1,266 52	

Average No. of paupers, 3.

The superintendent, with the team belonging to the town has earned for the town $237 22, which is counted in the avails of the farm.

PAID FOR PAUPERS OFF THE FARM.

John Hills, for support of Diantha Livingston	$36 50
Michael White	48 00
City of Concord, Lydia Caldwell	13 50
Joel Peabody, for Breen boys	38 00
Mrs. Mary Colburn, bill for John Livingston	80 00
Coffin and robe for John Livingston	13 00
N. P. Clark, medical attendance and necessaries for John Livingston	44 50
Joel Peabody for Gilman and Samuel Peabody	12 00
Breen boys in addition	5 00
Paid town of Goffstown for Deborah Bailey	15 50
	$306 00
Additional balance against the town	96 47
Whole expense of poor	$402 47

We are of opinion that the farm has been well and economically managed, that the inmates have been well used, and in every respect made comfortable; and that the management of the household has been wise and judicious.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. COCHRAN,
STEPHEN F. BURNHAM,
DAVID BARNARD,
} Overseers of Poor.

Superintending School Committee's

REPORT.

To the Citizens of New Boston :—The School Committee, in compliance with law and custom, presents his annual report to the town.

Our teachers the past year, collectively considered, have labored diligently for the good of those intrusted to their charge, and good improvement has been made in the various branches pursued. Most of the teachers have kept correctly the registers furnished them—others have kept them miserably, or in fact, in such a manner that the usual statistical information cannot be furnished. There is no good reason why teachers, with such plain directions before them, cannot keep their registers properly : how is the School Committee prepared to make his report to the town with imperfect registers ? Teachers are not entitled to their pay unless their registers are properly kept. I trust the several Prudential Committees will require it of the teachers in future before they pay them, and thereby aid the School Committee in presenting to the town a perfect report.

The scholars who attended school regularly and applied themselves diligently made commendable progress in their studies. Such scholars will make their mark, and will grow up to be useful men and women—to be honorable and useful citizens of the community. I am sorry to say that there is a class of scholars in the town, who—to judge from appearances—seem determined not to learn themselves, at least they do not make an effort in that direction, and it is painful to see a good school retarded in its progress, by these drones, sleepy-heads and Judases, who manage to wear away the school hours, by [illegible]ing; or in fact any way, except by study. Scholars should at-

tend regularly and apply themselves diligently to study, and by so doing, the above class will soon become extinct.

The Prudential Committees, in selecting teachers should procure those of experience, if possible, even if at a higher price. A good teacher is cheap at a high price.

Besides the usual branches, Algebra, Geometry, Astronomy, Physical Geography, Physiology and Philosophy have been taught in several schools with good success

Having thus briefly spoken of the schools as a whole, I now proceed to speak more particularly of each district in order :

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Nathaniel Manning, Agent.—Only one term of school, and that by Miss Lucy A. Burns, of Merrimac. I visited this school twice, and always found the scholars industrious and orderly. At the close of the term the classes in Arithmetic recited promptly, also a very good class in Geography. The writing books looked well and showed much improvement. Reading and spelling were fair.

Length of school 9 weeks; whole number of scholars 15 ; average attendance 12; register imperfect; wages not understood.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

James M. Tuttle, Agent.—Summer Term—Miss Mercie J. P. Fisher, teacher. At the closing examination there was a respectable improvement in some of the branches taught, especially writing. The order was not the best, but perhaps as good as could be expected for the first attempt.

Length of school 8 weeks; whole number of scholars 12 ; average attendance 11 ; register imperfect.

Winter Term.—Miss Sarah Farley, teacher. The school under the care of Miss F. made a far better appearance than usual. The order was good, and the improvement better than previous terms. Several very good classes in mental and written arithmetic, also a good class in grammar, writing books fair.

Length of school 10 weeks ; whole number of scholars 19 ; average attendance 15 ; register imperfect.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Henry M Fairfield, Agent.—One short term of school, taught by Miss Martha R. Butterfield, of Dunbarton. The scholars were very young and a little backward, yet judging from the improvement made it was a success. Miss B. is a teacher of good qualifications and has had considerable experience. The new school house is quite an ornament to the district, and speaks well for the generosity of citizens.

Length of term 6 weeks; whole number of scholars 9 ; average attendance 7 ; wages per month including board $24.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

No Register having been received, consequently I am unable to report the name of the agent, and statistical information. Both terms of school were taught by Miss Elizabeth C. Kendall. The school has been under the charge of Miss

K. for the past two years, and I think she has given universal satisfaction. This teacher has many good qualifications; she always appears to have the good will of her scholars, and governs without severity.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Jonathan Marden, Agent.—Summer Term—Miss L. A. Marden, teacher. At the examination, I found several scholars, yawning, sleeping, stretching and gaping, which gave the school rather a drowsy appearance; the rest of the scholars were wide awake, and passed a very creditable examination. A new school house is much needed in this district.

Length of term 8 weeks; according to the register the wages were $2 per week; whole number of scholars 11; average attendance 9.

Winter Term, by Miss Elizabeth C. Kendall. I visited the school only once and found it in excellent order, and apparently prospering. A few of the aforesaid "yawners" were present; most of the recitations were well learned and promptly recited. Register not returned.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

David McCollom, agent.—Both terms were taught by Miss L. Smith, of Mont Vernon. This is a very interesting school and has improved much in point of scholarship within the past two years. The parents are interested in the right direction; they furnish a good teacher, and have their children constantly at school. Register not returned.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Alonzo Rowell, Agent.—Miss Nellie B. Holt, teacher. Miss H. is a fine scholar, and is an excellent teacher in every respect. No school appeared better than this at the examination. Recitations in all the common branches were very good and the classes in Higher Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry were first rate. So much for a good teacher, hire her again.

Length of school 8 weeks; wages per month $12 and board; whole number of scholars 13; average attendance 11. One perefect register.

Winter Term.—Miss Lydia W. Dodge, teacher. Miss D. has many excellent qualifications for a teacher; she is a thorough scholar, and apt to teach, but as this was her first effort, and laboring under the disadvantage of teaching in her native district, she failed somewhat in point of order. There was a fair improvement in most branches taught.

Length of school 10 weeks; wages per month, including board, $16; whole number of scholars 11; average attendance 10.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

E. L. Bartlett, Agent.—Both terms of the primary department by Miss Sarah L. Cochrane. This champion of "Infantry Tactics" has drilled the squad so long, to the satisfaction of all concerned, that I think it best to give her an annuity, and let her teach the school the "rest of her days"—at least so long as she shall continue a member of the corps of teachers. The rhetorical exercises at the closing examination, were worthy of note.

First Term, length of school 10 weeks; second term 12 weeks; wages of teacher per month including board, first term $20, second term $22; whole number of scholars, first term 31, average attendance 24; second term 32, average attendance 27.

Upper School, Summer Term--Miss Laura E. Jerald, teacher. I visited this

school several times, and as far as I am able to judge, it was a profitable term. The recitations were all promptly recited. There were some very interesting classes in astronomy, philosophy, grammar and analysis. Singing was practiced with good success. Miss J. was well qualified, apt to impart, and maintains the best of order.

Length of school 10 weeks; wages per month, including board $20; whole number of scholars 32; average attendance 22.

Winter Term was taught by Miss Helen A. Clough, of Manchester. Miss Clough has had considerable experience as a teacher and came to us well recommended, but for want of tact she failed to satisfy in all respects. At the examination some of the scholars who attended regularly, and were industrious, made respectable improvement in the branches taught. While on the other hand the "heedless and aimless" scholars were dull and stupid as usual.

Length of school 12 weeks; wages per month, including board $28; whole number of scholars 45; average attendance 34.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Samuel Crombie, Agent.—In a school so small as this, it is impossible to judge much of a teacher's capacity; for with so small a number of very young scholars, it is not at all natural for either teacher or pupil to feel sufficient interest to put forth their best efforts. The school usually numbers four scholars, and they are always stowed away in so many nooks and corners, too far from each other to be at all neighborly; consequently quiet reigns and good order prevails. The improvement in the branches pursued was all that could reasonably be expected. Miss Mary A. Campbell, teacher Summer Term.

Length of school 8 weeks; wages not understood in the register; whole number of scholars 4; average attendance 3.

Mr. George Warren, teacher, Winter Term.—Register not returned. It seems to be a waste of time and money to pay full wages—so few scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Robert Brown, Agent.—Here for want of sufficient opportunity, this school is probably the most backward in the town. Yet many of the scholars manifested a desire to learn, and there was a fair improvement generally by those who attended regularly. For several years past, the interest in the school has been lost sight by the parents, but at present, I am happy to say that the right spirit seems to be reviving.

Only one term of 8 weeks, by Miss Mary E. Woodbury; wages per month including board $19; whole number of scholars 13; average attendance 9.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

Joseph Tucker, Agent.—Here Miss Mary J. Wood, of Francestown, made her first effort at teaching, and had she not partially failed in maintaining that state of discipline which is so essential to the success of a school, better satisfaction would have been given. Measles entered the school at the beginning and much retarded its progress; but notwithstanding this, considerable improvement was made in the different branches.

Length of school 9 weeks; wages per week $2, and board; whole number of scholars 13; average attendance 10.

Winter Term, by Miss Lydia Dodge. This school surely stands first in town, and it was a pleasure to visit it and witness the order and industry of the scholars. When scholars are active, appreciate the advantages they enjoy,

are sent to school regularly and strive to excel each other in the acquisition of knowledge, it is always a pleasant exhibition. While all appeared well, special mention would be made of the classes in higher arithmetic, algebra and grammar. Register not returned.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

S. Dane, Esq., Agent.—This school has only five scholars—two from Francestown, and the rest from New Boston. The scholars are quite sharp, and this renders it a pleasant school for one so small. Some excellent classes in Algebra, aritbmetic and grammar. Jennie M. Marden, teacher, summer term, and Mary R. Kingsbury, winter term.

Summer term 10 weeks; winter term 10 weeks; wages per month, suummer term $6 and board; winter term $12 and board; average attendance 4 91-98.

DISTRICT NO. 13.

Joseph Gage, Agent.—Summer Term taught by Miss Mary R. Kingsbury. I visited this school several times, and was much pleased with its appearance. The examination was very creditable to teacher and scholars.

Length of school 8 weeks; wages per month $12 and board; whole number of scholars 25; average attendance 20.

Winter Term by Miss Lydia S. McNeil. At the examination I listened to the recitations in higher arithmetic, algebra, grammar and analysis, and was satisfied they had been thoroughly taught, and well understood. Miss M. has taught this school several terms, and needs no word of commendation from me. The parents deserve much praise for the interest they manifest in the welfare of the school. The average attendance is the best of any school in the town.

Length of school 11 weeks; wages per month, exclusive of board $18; whole number of scholars 22; average attendance 20.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Amos Langdell, Agent.—Summer—Josie A. Huntington, teacher. The scholars in this district are quite young; yet they seem to understand their duty, attend regularly, study well, and made fair improvement.

Length of summer term 8 weeks; wages per month exclusive of board $8; whole number of scholars 13; average attendance 10.

Winter—Ella F. Nutting, teacher.

Length of school 10 weeks; and register very imperfect.

DISTRICT NO. 15.

Daniel Lovering, Agent.—Only one term of school. Mrs. Rachel R. Wilson, teacher. The scholars in this district have not very good advantages, consequently they are backward in their studies. I visited this school several times and found the scholars making considerable effort. The examination showed commendable improvement.

Length of school 15 weeks; wages per month, including board $16; whole number of scholars 17, and only 9 of these belonged to the district; average attendance 14.

DISTRICT. NO. 16.

Stephen F. Burnham, Agent.—The Summer Term taught by Miss Lydia Dodge, was probably the most successful school this district has had, for two

years, at least. Many of the scholars are young, yet at the examination the recitations in arithmetic and grammar were thoroughly understood and promptly recited. Miss D. is an excellent teacher. Register not returned.

Winter Term was taught by Mr. John K. Warren. I visited this school twice at the commencement, and was satisfied that the teacher was discharging his duty faithfully. I did not visit the school at its close, consequently am unable to report the improvement made in the various branches. The Prudential Committee, and several parents have informed me that it was satisfactory.

Length of school not given in the register; wages $1 per day and board; whole number 25; average attendance 22.

DISTRICT NO. 17.

Perry Richards, Esq., Agent. This is a union district with No. 17 in Weare, and had one term at the expence of New Boston; taught by Miss Mary Richards. On visiting this school everything appeared favorable for a successful term, and the best evidence that it was so, is the fact that she was engaged to teach a private school after the public money was expended. Scholars were very orderly and recitations good. Twelve scholars were not absent one half day.

Length of school 5 week; wages per month including board $20; whole number of scholars 31; average attendance 29.

HAMMON WOODBURY,
Superintending School Committee.

New Boston, Feb. 26th, 1868.